

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 EB-11 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 CPR-02

RSR-01 RSC-01 /067 W

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P 130920Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0626

UNCLAS DACCA 3634

PASS AGRICULTURE

E O 11652 N/A

TAGS OEXC, BG

SUBJECT: DONATION OF AMERICAN TREES TO "DIPLOMATIC GROVE" IN DACCA

REF : (A) STATE 158751; (B) DACCA A-049, JULY 19; (C) DACCA 3393

1. REF AIRGRAM DISPATCHED JULY 20 BY POUCH NO. BR 5861. RETURNED COPY OF INVOICE NO. A-066 DISCLOSES POUCH MATERIAL RECEIVED WASHINGTON JULY 23.

2. REF AIRGRAM TRANSMITTED BDG REQUEST FOR SIX SAPLINGS OF TREES INDIGENOUS TO SUPPLYING COUNTRY WHICH MIGHT BE ABLE GROW HERE. CIRCULAR NOTE DID NOT, REPEAT NOT, SPECIFY THAT SIX SAPLINGS EACH OF DIFFERENT TREES DESIRED. WHETHER SELECTION ALL OF ONE TREE OR MIXED LEFT TO OPTION SUPPLYING COUNTRY.

3. REF AIRGRAM ALSO FORWARDED DATA FROM FOREST CONSERVATOR ON PLANTING CONDITIONS IN "DIPLOMATIC GROVE". LOCATION AT BOTANICAL GARDEN, MIRPUR, EIGHT MILES OUTSIDE DACCA: 24 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE, 90 DEGREES EAST LONGITUDE. AREA OF UNDULATING CONFIGURATION, WITH HIGHEST POINT ABOUT 40 FEET ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL. LOWLAND COVERED BY FLOOD WATER DURING RAINY SEASON; HIGH LAND NEVER SUBMERGED. AVERAGE RAINFALL ABOUT 90 INCHES, MOSTLY JUNE-SEPTEMBER. WINTER RAINFALL NOVEMBER-FEBRUARY LESS THAN EIGHT INCHES. HUMIDITY VERY HIGH, RARELY BELOW 60 PERCENT. TEMPERATURE RANGES FROM 100 DEGREES F. HOTTEST MONTH (APRIL) TO 45-50 UNCLASSIFIED

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DEGREES NOVEMBER-FEBRUARY; FROST UNKNOWN.

4. AREA IS GEOLOGICALLY OF RECENT ORIGIN; BELONGS TO MADHUPUR TRACT; NOT ALLUVIAL. SOIL CONSISTS OF YELLOWISH-RED SAMLY CLAY MIXED WITH OCCASIONAL SCATTERED MANGENIFEROUS IRON ORES. UNIFORMLY COMPACT AND HARD WHEN DRY; ERODES WITH HEAVY MONSOON RAINFALL. SUB-SOIL WATER LEVEL RISES TO ABOUT 6 FEET BELOW SURFACE DURING RAINY SEASON, SINKS TO 30-40 FEET IN DRY SEUUN.

5. FINALLY, REF AIRGRAM PASSED ON EMBASSY REQUEST A) WHETHER SAPLINGS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE, B) WHETHER PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPORT COULD BE PROVIDED WITHM T COST HERE, IN ABSENCE ANY EMBASSY FUNDS THIS PURPOSE, AND C) WHETHER SAPLINGS COULD BE PRECLEARED FOR ENTRY INTO BANGLADESH SO THAT QUARANTINE FORM-LITIES MIGHT BE REDUCED TO MINIMUM.

6. AS INDICATED REF C, NEW DEADLINE OF SEPT. 16 IMPOSED ON PLANTING OF SAPLINGS HERE. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EARLIEST ADVICE.NEWBERRY

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